Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission September 25, 2020 Meeting Public Comment

Date of Submission: Wednesday, September 24, 2020

Method of Submission: SurveyMonkey 9/25/20 Public Comment Signup

Name: Thomas J Hettinger

Public Comment: The reason the people of Michigan passed this amendment was to bring sanity to the redistricting process and to remove political considerations. I feel the best and easiest way to do this is through the impartiality of and the use of technology via computer programs designed to perform this function on a completely unbiased bases. The census data is imputed and the program draws fair and unbiased districts. I'm sure there is more to it than that but that is the basics. I researched a little as I had applied for this commission also and would like to pass on those web sites.

http://www.publicmapping.org/, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2014/06/03/this-computer-programmer-solved-gerrymandering-in-his-spare-time/,

https://www.caliper.com/Redistricting/state_edition.htm, http://autoredistrict.org/. I would like to see the commission review these options and others I may not have found and select the best one for the redistricting of Michigan. I appreciate your time and hope you take this suggestion into serious consideration.

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Name: Linda

Written Public Comment: Redistricting needs to be along main roads, naturally occurring borders (e.g. rivers). No twists and turns. There should be a limit to how many corners or changes in direction per district.

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Name: Patrick Mann

Written Public Comment: Regarding the hiring process, how does the commission plan on vetting and protecting against political bias when hiring staff, advisors, and technical experts. How does the commission plan on maintaining the spirit of political balance among staff hired by the commission. Side Note: I was unable to find the meeting agenda for this meeting on Redistricting Michigan.org, please make the agenda for future meetings available. Thanks Patrick Mann